

Remarks and Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)(2)

I. Status of the Claims

Prompt and favorable consideration of the Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1-32 have been canceled and claims 33-43 have been added. Claims 33 and 38 are independent claims. Upon entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, claims 33-43 will be subject to examination in the application. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

II. Support for the Amendment

As required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)(2), Applicants hereby request the deletion of Bradley T. Hyman and George W. Rebeck from the named inventive entity of the above-captioned application. This change in inventorship is necessitated by the above amendment deleting claims 1-4, 6-16, 18-23, 25, 27, 29 and 31 (which are among claims 1-32). As Bradley T. Hyman and George W. Rebeck are not inventors of the subject matter of any of the remaining claims, their deletion from the inventorship is believed proper. Accordingly, upon entry of this request, the inventive entity would be changed from Rudolph E. Tanzi, Bradley T. Hyman, George W. Rebeck and Deborah L. Blacker, to Rudolph E. Tanzi and Deborah L. Blacker.

Applicants have amended the Title to reflect the subject matter claimed and have amended the specification to cross-reference related Application No. 09/148,503.

In addition, new claims 33-43 have been added. Support for these claims can be found, *inter alia*, in paragraphs 15, 18, 38, and 52-57, and in original claims 19-27.

In parent Appl. No. 09/148,503, the Examiner made a restriction requirement in which the claims were divided into two groups. Group II included claims 19-27 and 30-32, and were drawn to methods of diagnosing Alzheimer's disease by isotyping α_2 M. New claims 33-43 of

the present application are consonant with claims 19-27 in Group II of this restriction requirement.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Summary

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for examination. Early notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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***Version of Amendment With Markings
to Show Changes Made***

In the Title

AN ALPHA-2-MACROGLOBULIN ISOTYPE DIAGNOSTIC TEST FOR
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

In the Specification:

[0001] This application is a divisional of, and claims priority to, Application No. 09/148,503, filed on September 4, 1998. Application No. 09/148,503 claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/057,655, filed on September 5, 1997, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/093,297, filed on July 17, 1998[, t]. The entire contents of [which] each of these applications are herein incorporated by reference.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-32 have been canceled.

Claims 33-43 have been added.